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APRIL

# the dental assistant



Journal of the  
American Dental  
Assistants Association

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# the dental assistant



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### Subscription Manager

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## *President's Page*

Dear Fellow-Members:

As we go into our spring months, many of you will be holding your annual meetings. My fondest wish is to be in attendance at all of them, but conflicting dates and distances to travel make this impossible. There are a few thoughts I would like to pass on to you for discussion at your annual sessions. Elect your delegates and alternates carefully and see that they are informed as to how the members they represent wish them to vote on matters of policy that will be brought before the House of Delegates at the annual meeting of the A.D.A.A. in Atlantic City, N. J. next October. Any proposed changes in the By-laws will be sent to your State officers sixty days before the annual meeting and will also be published in the Journal. The Committee on Redistricting will bring their report to this meeting; please study and discuss this with your members. Your Officers are elected to carry out and put into motion the policies dictated by the House of Delegates. If the state secretaries will send in the list of Delegates and Alternates as soon as possible after their election it will insure smoother operation in the Central Office and save many unnecessary letters.

A satisfactory Conference with five of the major officers, four trustees, the Chairman of the ADACB and the Secretary-Treasurer of the Past President's Council was enjoyed in Chicago during the Mid-Winter meeting. Problems affecting the entire membership were studied; a detailed letter has been sent to all state Officers. The previous week-end was spent in LaPorte, Indiana, visiting with our Executive Secretary and Sadie Leach. We are very much impressed with the volume of work that goes through our Central Office. Brochures from the Public Relations Committee, Membership Committee, and the J.A.S. Birthday Party Committee and the new Study Course Outlines have all been mailed from the Central office and we hope will serve to stimulate interest for your annual meetings.

Please show your "LOYALTY" by answering all correspondence promptly. My best wishes to all for successful meetings and to each of you a Joyful Easter.

Sincerely,

Mary Haney, President.



## EASTER LEGACY

From Easter eve to Easter day  
Was just a little time away,  
But something happened in those  
hours  
That gave the world triumphant  
powers.

Now Easter brings to us each year,  
The strength to triumph over fear,  
And where we've found a stone be-  
fore  
We, too, may find an open door.

—L. Mildred Harris.

## IMMORTALITY

By Ernst Ballantyne

Marshalled before us on the green-  
ing lea,  
As breaks the sun through April's  
leadens sky,  
Billowing waves of countless crocus  
lie  
To call forth from awed hearts a  
rhapsody  
Of praise to God—who caused these  
joys to be;

These are the flowers of yesteryear,  
we cry,  
That bloomed and withered and, it  
seemed, didst die—  
Does nothing ever know finality?

Lol from the grass springs nature's  
evidence  
That though transition comes—  
naught knoweth death;  
To silence realist's finite pretense  
Which would fog substance with its  
shadow's breath;

As crocuses, reborn from out the sod  
Bespeak the utter deathlessness of  
God!

## FRIENDLY SMILE

(Author Unknown)

Of all the old and new delights . . .  
That make this life worth while . . .  
I think that none gives greater joy . . .  
Than just a friendly smile . . .  
A smile that seems to say Hello . . .  
And how are you today? . . .  
And sort of picks your troubles up . . .  
And pushes them away . . .  
It is a greeting fit for kings . . .  
Yet always it is free . . .  
And it belongs to every class . . .  
Of social company . . .  
A friendly smile relieves the strain . . .  
Wherever strangers meet . . .  
And as it praises victory . . .  
It comforts in defeat . . .  
It is the kind of handshake that . . .  
Will penetrate a glove . . .  
And now and then it lights the  
flame . . .  
That kindles into love . . .

Submitted by Mrs. Bonnie Ashmore,  
Treasurer, K. V. D. A.)  
West Virginia Dental Journal.

Wife (reading)—"It says here they  
have found a sheep in the Himalaya  
mountains that can run forty miles  
an hour."

Husband—"Well, it would take a  
lamb like that to follow Mary now-  
adays."—Border City Star.

## ETHICS

By Dr. J. W. Yarbrough

Madam President, members of the Georgia Dental Assistants Association and guests: I deem it an honor for you to invite me to read a paper to this group. As my topic I have chosen a neglected, yet most important subject, "Ethics."

Webster's dictionary gives several definitions of "ethics", but the one which I consider the most appropriate is "the science of moral duty, or the science of the ideal human character."

All professions have their ideas as to proper ethics; that is, they have a set of rules given as a basis to govern their conduct as members of their particular profession. When these rules are put in printed form, they are called the code. The dental profession has its Code of Ethics. The American Dental Assistants Association also has its Code of Ethics. The preamble to the American Dental Association's Code of Ethics reads, as follows: "In order that the dignity and honor of the dental profession may be upheld, its standards exalted, its sphere of usefulness extended, and the advancement of dental science promoted, and that the members of the American Dental Association may understand more clearly their duties and obligations to the dental profession, to their patients, and to the community at large, the following Code of Ethics is prescribed:" The first section reads thus: "It is the duty of every dentist, and it shall be incumbent upon every member of the Association to govern his deportment in accordance with the underlying principles which have motivated the formulation of this Code. It is not assumed that the following articles cover the whole field of dental ethics; the dent-

ist is charged with many duties and obligations in addition to those set forth herein."

Although I am sure that each one of you has heard or read your own Code of Ethics, I would at this time like to refresh your memories. "In her dealings with the profession of dentistry and with her associates, the conduct of the Dental Assistant should be in accordance with the Golden Rule, both in its letter and in its spirit. The Dental Assistant should be morally, mentally and physically clean; she should be honest in all her dealings with her Associates, she should be loyal to her employer and the profession which she serves, as comports with the honor and dignity of a cultural professional woman."

Think for a minute and absorb the full meaning of these passages. It is very simple for each one of you to abide by these codes—that is, if you are interested in yourself and in your profession. I am sure that we are all interested in ourselves, and by your presence here, I presume that you are all interested in your profession—and it is your profession as well as your employers, because you are proving your loyalty more and more, year by year.

But, are you doing your best? Do you take advantage of every opportunity to learn more; thereby being of better service to your employer and your profession, which in turn benefits the patients whom we all serve.

To my way of thinking, an assistant's first obligation is to her employer who is responsible for everything which happens in the office. Secondly, it is her duty to uphold the honor and dignity of her profession

by living a clean, wholesome life. Thirdly, her duty is to her fellow assistants and to her employer's fellow practitioners. Lastly, she should finally get around to thinking about her salary. But alas, how many of us are prone to reverse the order of these principles.

Now let us go back to each of these—one by one. Being honest and faithful to your employer, by no stretch of the imagination, means only one person—it includes the dentist and every one of his patients. Yes, every one of them—not just the ones you may happen to know or like. It includes the patients who are late for appointments, as well as those who are always on time. It includes the ones who may have to cancel or break an appointment, as well as those who may encounter some difficulty but still keeps their engagements. It includes the well-to-do the same as the not-so-fortunate. It includes the ungrateful as well as the grateful. And lastly, it includes the ones who are not such prompt pay as well as those who send their checks on the 1st of the month. Treat them all alike while they are in your office—be just as nice to one as to the other; and under no circumstances ever be rude or act indignant. Master all situations instead of letting your feelings come to the surface. Sure, I know there are times when it is hard to do, but it can be done; and in order to be an efficient assistant you must control your impulses at all times. Your employer cannot teach you to do this, therefore it is up to you to master your own personality; but usually your employer is the first to see if you have done so. And right here, let me remind you that because of the patients who may come to your office you have a job—if you run them away, you know the result; but if you use the proper ap-

proach and technique toward patients, you aid in increasing your employer's practice; whereas your compensation will surely be increased. All the above statements apply to telephone technique as much as to personal contacts of the office. Very often the first impression of any office is made over the phone.

Uphold the honor and dignity of your profession—be proud of it—pat yourself on the back for being one who can do your work properly under any circumstances. Choose your friends and associates wisely, so that there will be no chance of criticism by anyone. Any reflection on you is a smear on the whole office in which you work. Keep your cards on the table and play above board always. There is only one way and that is the correct way. Let me remind you here that it is very unethical to solicit patients for the dentist with whom you work. If members of your family or very close friends inquire as to his ability; answer accordingly but let them take the initiative in such matters.

Judge not your fellow assistants or your employer's fellow practitioners. Yes, I have made dentures, inserted restorations or cemented a bridge of which I was not so proud myself. But have you or your employer the right to criticize, when you do not know under what conditions or handicap this work might have been done. People who live in glass houses should not throw stones; and in my opinion, we all live in glass houses.

Attend your district meetings, and take an active part in such gatherings. Make it a point to become better acquainted with your fellow assistants, and encourage more activity and better programs for your local meetings.

(Continued on page 51)

## EDUCATIONAL PHASES BY THE DENTAL ASSISTANT FOR THE PATIENT

By Norma Forant, President  
Rhode Island Dental Assistants Association

The Dental Assistant should advise the patients concerning tooth brushing habits. Instructions should be given as to how the brushing should be done, particular attention should be given as to how the interproximal spaces should be cleaned. This is one of our present problems among all types of individuals, their care of the interproximal spaces.

There are individuals who find that they cannot brush their teeth because of some condition present in the mouth. They should be advised in the use of correct mouth rinses; however this is not a substitute for the brushing of their teeth. I find that the use of a piece of sterile gauze soaked in the mouth rinse solution, and have the patient use this to clean the teeth, gums, and oral tissues, is very helpful. It will help greatly in keeping the mouth and tissues clean. The kind and type of mouth rinse used should be prescribed by the dentist.

Children should be taught to brush their teeth after each meal and before going to bed. Candy should be given to children after meals and not between meals. The brushing of their teeth should be advised particularly after eating candy.

Research work has been done on the cause of caries by the indiscriminate use of candy. This we will all accept to be true, as we see it every day in our offices. The abuse of the use of sugar has caused more caries than we realize. For better health, explain to your children the proper use of candy.

The following is a good general method of teeth brushing: (1) Brush each area at least three minutes. (2) Brush lower teeth upwards. (3)

Brush upper teeth downwards. (4) Brush chewing surfaces with the head of your brush. (5) Brush inside and outside surfaces. A small tooth brush that has two rows of bristles, and of medium texture is desirable. A child's brush should have a small head and be changed at least every month.

Massage gums in the morning with thumb and first finger moistened with a solution of  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoonful of salt and a glass of water. This is ideal, as it will restore the tonicity of the mucous membrane.

### Diet

The diet of the average individual is a fundamental factor in the development and maintenance of teeth, jaw bones, and soft tissues of the mouth. In addition it will influence the amount of severity of decay in both primary (baby) and permanent (adult) teeth. The diet should start in the prenatal period and is active continuously thereafter, throughout infancy, childhood, and adulthood. Other factors in the development of teeth, jaws, and gums as well as the rest of the body are calcium, phosphorus, vitamin D, vitamin C and others. Milk is the only food that is rich enough in calcium (lime) to supply the required amount for daily needs.

The use of roughage is important in order to develop the muscles of the jaw, harden the teeth and investing tissue. If we eat a soft diet we will find that our teeth will become loose and the muscles will lose their tonicity. We should advise the patient to eat hard bread, and food with roughage in order to preserve a healthy mouth.

### Proper Care of Restorations

Patients should be instructed to remove full and partial dentures before retiring and keep moist in a small amount of baking soda and water; this will keep them sweet and clean. Also partials, especially clasps should be cleaned whenever possible after the intake of food with a clasp brush. Full dentures should also be cleaned with a plate brush, not tooth brush. Before the assistant instructs her patient she should consult her dentist because there are many schools of thought on this method.

### Proper Dental Care for Children

Dental care for children should begin at two and a half years of age and since the dentist rarely has contact with a child before that age the physician should refer the child to the dentist. Now in these busy days the physician does not always remember to advise a mother about early dental care for children. It is the assistant's duty whenever possible to advise mothers when they present themselves to your offices. There are still many parents who do not realize the value of preserving the deciduous or baby teeth. You must explain to the parents that the dentist is not only interested in filling of deciduous teeth but in the prevention of infection, malocclusion, malformations which will effect the child's general growth, health and development. These deciduous teeth should remain with the child from three to thirteen years of age.

### Space Maintainers

Sometimes, in spite of the best care, a deciduous tooth becomes badly decayed and must be extracted. When this loss occurs the dentist may insert a space maintainer to prevent the other teeth from drifting and thus help to preserve the natural shape of the jaw. It will preserve the space

for the permanent tooth which comes in later.

### Preventing Decay

Dental caries is a disease that causes destruction of the teeth. It is one of the commonest of human ailments, only 2 or 3 per cent of the population ever escapes it entirely. Unlike most diseases, it has become more prevalent with progress of civilization. However, decay of the teeth differs in one way from other diseases, in that the enamel and dentin of the teeth are so highly mineralized that they do not repair themselves. One cause of decay is the food that is left on or in between the teeth from one day to another. Caries present in the mouth will retain food particles and become a natural incubator for bacteria and their by-products. Science knows of only one means by which the enamel of the tooth can be destroyed, and that is the action of acid. These acids are formed as the result of breaking down of the food particles by the bacillus acidophilus, one of the acids formed is known as lactic acid which is responsible for greater number of the caries in the mouth.

In order to prevent decay, one must remember that diet, cleanliness of the mouth, and health are the important factors.

Progress of pyorrhea can be explained to the patient in the following manner. When dental calculus, or tartar, is allowed to form upon the teeth inflammation of the soft tissue about the neck of the teeth will result. This condition is called gingivitis. If the calculus is allowed to remain and accumulate, the inflammatory condition increases and the deeper tissue becomes affected. This loss of tissue attachments to the tooth root causes pockets. These pockets cannot be kept clean with the tooth brush and so they form pus

pockets, or as it is properly called pyorrhea pockets.

Pyorrhea does not often spread directly from one tooth socket to another. It may affect the bone around a tooth and cause the bone to become absorbed. This process gradually weakens the supporting structure of the tooth and eventually causes the loss of the tooth. With regular care by the dentist and interdental tooth brushing daily and treatments by the patient greater results can be obtained.

### **Danger of General Dental infection**

Dental neglect will reduce the masticating efficiency, with injury to their health. Decayed teeth may result in infection, which may spread directly to the adjacent soft tissues, jaw bones, and maxillary sinuses, and it may be carried through the veins to the eye and cavernous sinus. Also neglected infected teeth and gums may be the causes of heart condition, kidney conditions and other serious physical ailments.

### **Improper Irregularity**

When premature extractions of badly infected teeth occurs you must remember that proper precautions must be taken, otherwise the teeth will drift from their normal position and disarrangement in the dental arch will occur. This disarrangement of the teeth results in undue stress on certain teeth during mastication, which causes further displacement and injury to the bone and periodontal membrane.

Lost teeth should be replaced with either a fixed bridge or removable bridge depending on the nature of the case.

### **Advantages of Ammoniated Tooth Powder**

The action of the ammoniated tooth powder depends on the  $NH_3$  factor eliminated in the presence of mois-

ture. This factor being a powerful alkaliizer will neutralize any acids formed from decayed food particles that remain in the mouth. It will also destroy enzymes which produce decay and also the bacteria which cause decay. The proper use of this powder should be taught to the patient. This technique should be taught by the dental assistant as the busy dentist has no time to teach these techniques.

### **Fluorine Treatment Explained by the Dental Assistant**

The fluorine treatment can be explained to the patient by the dental assistant to save the doctor's time. Treatment should begin with the three-year-old child, by a cleaning and an application of fluorine, and this must be followed by a regular weekly treatment for three weeks. Treatment at the age of three will benefit the first teeth, while treatment at the ages of seven, ten, and thirteen will benefit the permanent teeth. These ages should be varied (in the judgment of your doctor) in accordance with the tooth eruption pattern of the individual child.

### **X-rays**

While the doctor is busy with patients the assistant may take the time to explain to the patient why he or she needs an X-ray. X-ray examination of the permanent teeth is recommended in order that small hidden cavities not otherwise visible may be detected and filled. X-rays also are used to locate tartar or calcareous deposits, to ascertain the degree of bone absorption. X-ray pictures reveal the presence of impacted teeth, supernumerary teeth, malformed teeth roots, abscesses, cysts and foreign bodies that may be present in the jaws. They enable the dentist to examine the margins of old fillings and inlays.



# Children as Dental Patients

By Aileen Byes

One of the most neglected phases of dentistry is the care of the child of pre-school and early school age. We can hardly blame the dentists for this for we all know the child patient can be rather trying at times, however with the proper attitude toward the children we can do a lot toward making dentistry a pleasure instead of a trial for both the dentist and the children.

There can be no set rules of approach toward the child who comes into the dental office as each child is a different personality and reacts entirely different.

I am going to tell you a story of a successful visit to the dentist by Johnny, age five. This is Johnny's first visit to the dentist and he is a little apprehensive, having received the impression from various relatives that a dentist's office is a place where there is a boogey man in a white coat who delights in hurting little children. Fortunately for Johnny his parents are very intelligent people and have avoided the mention of pain in connection with dentistry. They have treated the matter of a trip to the dentist's office as an outing rather than an ordeal.

Johnny has an appointment at ten o'clock with Dr. Doe. He arrives about ten minutes early. Johnny is greeted by a neat, well groomed girl who is seated at the desk in the attractive, well lighted reception room. He learns that her name is Mary and she talks with him for a few minutes about the kindergarten class he attends. Johnny is glad she talks to him about something he knows

about; he is getting tired of everyone talking baby talk to him all the time. After all he is a big boy now; he'll be going to school next year.

He had hardly gotten started looking at one of the interesting books before Mary came to the door and said "Johnny, would you like to come with me; we will go into Dr. Doe's office."

Dr. Doe's office is a maze of interesting things; he keeps asking, "what's that?" of everything he sees, almost faster than Mary can answer him. She shows him how to turn the water off and on in the cuspidor and how to make the chair go up and down. There are several shiny instruments on the tray and she tells him what Dr. Doe is going to do with each one of them, certainly a little old mirror couldn't hurt anyone; I wonder where I ever got the idea this was going to hurt? Dr. is going to clean your teeth, Johnny," Mary says. Give me your hand and I will show you how it will feel when Dr. cleans your teeth. Mary places the rubber cup in the handpiece and gently runs it over his fingernail, saying, "Now that is how it will feel when Dr. Doe cleans your teeth."

When Dr. Doe comes into the room he finds a co-operative child instead of a bewildered child waiting for him. Another child has become a more successful patient for the dentist.

It is very gratifying to know that you have had even a small part in making this child patient of today a co-operative adult patient of tomorrow.

## OUR PROFESSION FROM A BUSINESS ANGLE

By Russell W. Force, D.D.S., F.I.C.D.

I should like to call to the attention of a vast majority of dentists, the greatest asset in our professional and business lives, our dental nurses.

The dental manufacturers, especially in the last decade, are spending thousands of dollars to help us use their materials in the most proficient manner, giving clinics and personal instruction. Manufacturers of dental equipment are doing likewise. Magazines carry articles about dental economics, courses and systems by which we, as dentists, can put our practices on a sound business basis. At every convention and society meeting we are constantly learning new methods, new material and new approaches to our chosen work.

But—have we a tendency to overlook the best aid to our profession, an aid that perhaps is neglected because it is always there, without the sales talk of the supply company, without benefit of advertisement? I refer to the Dental Nurse or Assistant. These two generally accepted terms imply different duties. In thinking of her as a dental nurse, omit the dental, and think of her duties as those of a nurse or a woman who can allay fear and put the patient at ease. Still in the roll of nurse, your assistant sees to the sterilization, cleanliness and order in the operating room. From the title "Dental Assistant" omit the "dental," too. Assistant in the office, in the laboratory, in the operating room.

It appears to me that a dental practice should be divided into two distinct phases. One, the actual dental practice or operation; two, the business angle. The first phase is naturally carried to completion by the operator himself. The second phase, if in the hands of a competent dental

assistant, will take the "dent" out of dentistry for the professional man.

Is it not a fact that large manufacturing concerns are employing women to write their advertisements? Why? Because it is generally understood that women have a natural knowledge of psychology that is too often lacking in men, especially professional and business men. Are we taking advantage of this fact? Our assistant should meet the patient, seat the patient, take all pertinent data and have the opportunity to converse for a few moments. You may well wonder how this can be of such great importance from a business angle. The better the assistant is able to judge the patient, the better she will be able to make the charges later!

Your assistant may be able to keep that one particular patient for you because she was able to see that this was a day when the mental attitude of the patient indicated a short appointment. She may be able to make a charge that coincides with the patient's ability to take advantage of that "fur sale" or that \$50.00 handbag that she was just allowed to peek into. There must be a scientific basis for judging office expenditures, and after the minimum charge for all operations has been established, the dental assistant is much better equipped to furnish the final fee.

The assistant, with her work at heart, is able to make suggestions as to office procedure and personal mannerisms that we as dentists and men would overlook. It is the little things and little attentions that add to the atmosphere of the office and make the patient enthusiastic. Thus, it would seem best to put your assistant in the position of "office man-



ager." Men in the sports field have managers. Managers to see that their interests are protected, to arrange matches and games, to relieve their minds of all minor details, leaving them free for their match; in our case, our manager, removing details of office management, collections, bills, etc., will leave us free to do our very best for each and every patient.

Our assistants have recently seen a definite outline of a goal long awaited. They have begged to be taken from the ranks of "office help" and clerical workers. They have worked hand in hand with a profession for many years and have developed a liking for dentistry as a profession, not just as another "job." Most of the women employed in ethical dental offices have belonged to a local, state and national organization of their own. An organization that has worked toward Certification of Dental Nurses for many years. Certification could well be labeled "Insurance" from the standpoint of the dentist. Insurance that a woman who has been certified by her own organization is one who has had either a great many years of experience in a dental office, or one who has desired to know more about her position and has given at least one night a week for a year to the study of her part in dentistry.

Education has made America what it is; education of your dental assistant will improve your little sphere in America.

---

"Your wife used to be terribly nervous. Now she's as cool and composed as a cucumber. What cured her?

"The Doctor did. He told her that her kind of nervousness was the natural result of advancing years.

## Ethics

(Continued from page 45)

And now, ladies, let me say that I hope every one of you is satisfied with your salary. But, if you are not, let me ask you to measure yourself before you criticize your employer. I hope that a girl who works for me never has to ask for a raise in pay; for if she measures up to the above standards, I feel that I am not too blind nor too selfish to reward her accordingly.

As a branch of the dental profession, you, as members of your assistants organization, are subject to the same rules and regulations expressed in the dental code of ethics as quoted above. I have only endeavored to cover some of the fundamentals. There could be quite a large volume written on this subject, but after all has been said and done, the question of professional ethics resolves itself to this one principle, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" should your positions be reversed. In other words, let the Golden Rule be your governing influence in dealing with the public, your profession and your fellow assistants.

In closing, let me again express my thanks to such a fine audience and I will be looking forward to addressing you again in the future, should I be invited.

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Presented by: Dr. J. W. Yarbrough,  
725 Bibb Building, Macon, Georgia.  
Georgia Dental Assistants Association Meeting, November 1949.

## *A D A News Release*

Tooth decay can be reduced between 50 and 60 per cent by the relatively simple process of brushing and rinsing the teeth immediately after eating, Dr. Leonard S. Fosdick, Northwestern University chemist, reported today in *The Journal of the American Dental Association*.

Dr. Fosdick's report was based on a two-year research study conducted by a group of dental investigators among 946 men and women students at Simpson College, University of Louisville and Drake, Emory and Northwestern universities.

During the test period, an experimental group of 523 students brushed their teeth with a neutral tooth paste within 10 minutes after eating, or if that was impossible, rinsed their mouths thoroughly with water. The other 423 students served as a control group and merely continued their normal oral hygiene habits, most of them brushing their teeth upon arising and before retiring.

X-ray examinations at the end of the first year revealed that the experimental group had developed an average of only .8 new cavities compared with an average of 2.2 new cavities for the control group, a reduction of 63 per cent. At the end of the second year, x-ray examinations revealed the experimental group had 60 per cent less new cavities than the control group.

The results, Dr. Fosdick said, provide additional support for the generally accepted theory that dental decay, mankind's most common disease, is initiated by an acid formed very rapidly in the mouth from fermentable carbohydrates such as sugar. The acid, he said, may be present on the tooth surface within three minutes after eating sugar, reaching a maximum intensity within about 20 minutes and persisting for from 30 to 90 minutes.

By brushing the teeth and rinsing the mouth immediately after eating, the fermentable carbohydrates are removed before sufficient acid is formed to initiate the decay process, he pointed out.

"On the basis of the . . . work, it is plain that the reduction in carious (decay) activity by purely oral hygiene procedures is real and that the actual reduction is probably in the neighborhood of between 50 and 60 per cent," Dr. Fosdick wrote, adding:

"It should be recorded that in general all of the individuals in both the test and control groups had soft drinks and candy readily available during the day with the exception of one control group. This factor was reflected in the variations from group to group.

"The control (group) in the school where candy and soft drinks were not available had a caries increment far below the averages reported previously in similar work. In those institutions where a water fountain was close to the soft drink and candy dispenser, less carious surfaces were found in both control and test groups than in groups where water was absent."

Dr. Fosdick described as "striking" the fact that a large number of individuals developed very few cavities or none at all during the test period.

"Thus it seems," he continued, "that brushing the teeth immediately after eating will materially reduce the number of cavities, not in just the least susceptible, but also in those cases where a multitude of cavities would otherwise develop. Those individuals who are only mildly caries-

active develop no caries and the very active ones develop only a few lesions (cavities)."

The quality of dental care being provided the British public is deteriorating under the British National Health Service, The Journal of the American Dental Association declared editorially today.

Quoting recent reports from the British Isles, The Journal said that the government program of providing free dental service to all citizens has extended dental services to large numbers of persons which they might otherwise have not received and had increased the practice of dentists, particularly in poorer neighborhoods.

"However," the editorial said, "these two assets are counterbalanced by many liabilities which already have lowered the standards of dental practice and threaten to lower still further standards of dental health." It continued:

"Dentists who accept all patients who present themselves for treatment work harder, longer hours and under greater nervous strain than formerly. Although their income has improved, their health has suffered. Harried and hurried they are unable to render the quality of service which they formerly gave their regular patients. Under these circumstances, patients become disgruntled, dentists become distracted and the good will of their practice deteriorates. Dentists who restrict the number of new patients in order to provide their old patients with high quality service have found their income seriously reduced.

"Dentists whose practices consist largely of extraction of teeth and the construction of dentures experience little difficulty in obtaining authorization of estimates for such services from the Dental Estimates Board. Eight dentists on the Board authorize such estimates at the rate of 16,000 a day—a mere 2,000 per estimator.

"Dentists that insist on providing patients with conservative restorative dentistry experience more difficulty in obtaining authorization. Estimates for crowns, bridges, inlays and periodontic treatment, in most instances, must be approved by a member of the Dental Estimates Board and frequently by a Ministry dental officer. This regulation delays treatment, places a premium on conservative dentistry, irritates the patient and reduces the dentist to the status of an automaton in the hands of a government agency. Conscientious dentists object strenuously to the Board's policy of granting almost blanket approval for blood and vulcanite dentistry while granting only limited approval for conservative service.

"The profession is beginning to realize that approval or disapproval of estimates is influenced by costs rather than patients' welfare. Under these conditions many dentists are finding it a great temptation to give up the endless struggle for the right to give their patients the treatment that they think best and to take the line of least resistance by estimating for treatment (the type of service) which they know will be approved immediately.

"These are but a few of the many criticisms leveled by British observers at their present health system. They forecast both a national headache and a national toothache for the British Isles unless immediate steps are taken to shake loose many of the nuts and bolts that now interfere with the workings of the hastily conceived and poorly designed national health machine..."

### **ANNOUNCING NEW DENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION MATERIAL**

The Council on Dental Health of the American Dental Association announces the availability of the booklet entitled "Everybody Smile," published by the Georgia Department of Public Health under the direction of Miss Annie Taylor of the Division of Dental Health.

This exceptional dental health education aid is especially suitable as a supplemental reader in upper grades and meets the best educational standards. The booklet is a good example of the presentation of dental health information through interesting and instructive activities. Its objectives are to develop a sense of responsibility (1) on the part of children for their dental health, and (2) on the part of teachers and community agencies to encourage children in this direction.

The Council also announces the availability of four new motion pictures.

Allen O. Gruebbel, D. D. S.

Secretary

COUNCIL ON DENTAL HEALTH

(Editor's Note: The booklet "Everybody Smile" is truly a beautiful booklet.)

### **JULIETTE A. SOUTHARD BIRTHDAY PARTY COMMITTEE**

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

#### **DO NOT SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS COMMITTEE**

Make checks payable to — Juliette A. Southard Relief Fund. Send contributions to: LoRena Kelly, ADAA Treasurer, 510½ Main Street, Newton, Kansas.

With the Spirit of Friendship, more precious than the finest jewel, may we leave you with these thoughts to ponder. What better friends than D. A.s.

Never lose an old friend  
No matter what the cause.  
We wouldn't ever do it  
If we didn't look for flaws.  
The one thing worth while having  
Is the friend who stands the test.  
And who has one friend such as this,  
Knows friendship at its best.

How little it costs,  
If we give it a thought,  
To make happy some heart each day!  
Just one kind word or a tender smile  
As we go on our daily way.

Soliciting your whole-hearted support, and respectfully submitted:

Elma Troutman, Chairman  
J. A. S. Birthday Party Committee  
4021 Delphos Avenue,  
Dayton 7, Ohio.

## *Loyalty Builds Membership*

The year 1949 was a wonderful year for us, who are dental assistants, and also for our Dental Assistants' Association. Our membership lists grew greatly, but not of their own accord. Our officers and members all worked together toward the same goal, that of a greater American Dental Assistants Association.

Now the officers, who did the marvelous work in the past, have retired and left it up to us. Throughout the year 1950 we must continue our efforts and theirs, to gain new members, but we must also retain the membership we have.

One of the words on our dental assistant pins is Loyalty, and we have had this word given to us in so many ways; Loyalty to our employers; Loyalty to our friends;—Loyalty, Loyalty, Loyalty—and now I present it to you in still another way; Loyalty to our fellow dental assistants and our Dental Assistants Association.

Loyalty to our Dental Assistants Association centralizes the thoughts and efforts of many separate girls into a singleness of purpose, and makes for further progress of knowledge and for higher recognition by our fellow workers.

We wish to make new contacts, with new thoughts and ideas, in order to further our aim of assisting to maintain the high standard of the dental health of our nation.

Ours is a comparatively new vocation, but our high ideals of service to mankind and the splendid tenets upon which our organization is founded, should certainly be conducive to others of like interests to join us in our desire to realize a goal of perfection in the dental office.

The fact that we are members, and know what membership in this organization means to us, should be sufficient answer to the question of "Why should I belong?"

We know this—now our job is to let every other dental assistant, that comes under the jurisdiction of the ADAA, know it, and be sure to let the dentists know about it too. The fact that his assistant is interested in becoming more informed to aid him to better serve his patients should certainly be to his advantage.

The question arises as to the best method to put this information where it belongs, in the hands of the non-member, and it must not be just for the once, but again and again and again. How many of the dentists in your vicinity are aware of your existence? Probably a great many, but for those that are not, a constant and continued reminding of the fact that you do exist, and what you stand for as an auxiliary to the dental profession must be emphasized.

Personal contact is, unquestionably, the best method of increasing membership in any organization. Use the telephone or the mails for the first contact, and then follow up your leads. Contact the Editor of your Local, County, or State Bulletins, and inquire as to the possibility of putting an article, possibly by your State President, as to what your society stands for, its relation to the dentist, and what the membership of his assistant in the group would mean to him. Enclose within the article the name and address of your Membership Chairman, with pertinent questions such as: "Is your assistant a member of the American Dental Assistants Association?", and "Would she be interested in joining the Organization?"

The campaign should be placed under the jurisdiction of a tireless, working Membership Chairman. She must have spirit enough to instill in the other members a will to do by setting the example.

Divide your communities into sections, and allocate the responsibility of each section to a member of the society. When a lead comes in, it is given to the member responsible for that section, who will make a personal contact with the prospective member. Send two girls to make a call. Friendly, happy girls are the ones. Get the prospect signed immediately, or let her know that her name will be submitted to the Board immediately. Do whatever your society has set as a precedent. Invite prospective members to a social gathering such as a dinner meeting,, your doctor-assistant meeting, or a tea, but get them together with your members. If there is to be a particularly interesting speaker on your program, invite all the assistants in your city, but write to the dentists about it. He will want his assistant to hear the lecture, and probably insist that she do so, and once she accepts an invitation, make her feel welcome and wanted. Be sure that your local dental supply house employees are friendly to your group,

We have something very valuable to offer new members. We have the opportunity to help others in our field, by getting them to join with us and also well informed as to what you stand for, and what you are doing, to foster scientific enterprise, and in turn to better assist the dentist to serve humanity. We have a fine future, but it is exactly what we, ourselves, make of it.

'Tis Winter, and if you make a little snowball, start it rolling, very soon you have a bigger and bigger snowball. The same principle applies to us. We, too, will get bigger and bigger, if we gain the proper momentum. You get as much out of a membership campaign as you put into it. If you think the other girls are going to do the work, the entire effort will be a dismal failure. Everything depends on enthusiastic, concerted effort. If you can pass that feeling on to your prospective members, the drive will be more than successful, and you may bask in the feeling of a job well done. You have been LOYAL to your fellow assistants, and to the American Dental Assistants Association.

Betty E. Frederick, Chairman,  
ADAA Membership Committee  
624 First National Bank Building,  
Canton 2, Ohio



**THE THOMAS W. EVANS MUSEUM AND DENTAL INSTITUTE  
SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**POSTGRADUATE COURSES  
PHILADELPHIA 4, PENNSYLVANIA**

**P. G. 18—COURSE IN DENTAL ASSISTING—BY:** Jules E. Kneisel, D. D. S.,  
and Associates—Two evenings per week (Mondays and Fridays)  
Two hours an evening 7 to 9 p. m. starting 16 October 1950.

This evening course for dental assistants includes instruction in the reception and care of the dental patient, assisting the dentist at the chair and in the laboratory, the taking and processing of roentgenograms, arranging appointments and keeping books.

The laboratory instruction and experience includes the pouring and separation of models, the packing of amalgam dies, the preparation and investment of wax patterns and the casting of inlays. The student also receives experience in mixing cements, silicate and amalgam filling materials.

In addition to this course, 2 years' employment as a dental assistant is required for certification by the American Dental Assistants Association. Enrollment limited to women.

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**104-HOUR EXTENSION STUDY COURSE BOOKLET**

The new extension study course booklet, prepared by the 1949 Certification Committee under the direction of Mrs. Sadie Hadley, and adopted by the Education Committee at the 1949 annual meeting, can now be procured at the Central Office.

It is a seventy page (mimeographed) booklet and should be in the hands of all groups conducting Certification Courses. It will be of tremendous value to instructors of these courses. Send your request for the booklet to Mrs. Mary L. Martin, Room 410 First National Bank Building, LaPorte, Indiana, enclosing one dollar (\$1.00) for each booklet (the cost of producing).

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**DO YOU BELONG?**

Are you an active member,  
The kind who's liked so well?  
Or are you quite contented  
With a pin on your lapel?

Do you attend the meetings  
And mingle with the flock?  
Or, Member, do you stay at home  
And criticize and knock?

Say, do you take an active part  
To help the work along?  
Or are you satisfied to be  
The kind that "just belong"?

Do you ever try to visit  
That good member who is sick?  
Or leave the work to just a few—  
Then talk about "that clique."

Come out to all the meetings  
And help with hand and heart,  
Don't be "just a member"  
But take an active part.

Please think this over, sister  
(We could add Dental Assistant)  
You know the right from wrong,  
You be an ACTIVE member,  
Instead of "just belong."

—Unknown.

# Secretary's Corner

By Mary L. Martin, Executive Secretary

410 First National Bank Bldg.

LaPorte, Indiana

The Secretaries and Treasurers of all Societies are urged to keep careful and accurate record of all dues collected, and to see that the ADAA dues are forwarded to Central Office as quickly as possible.

Bulletins and letters of general interest are being sent to the local societies, in the care of the Secretaries. Please see that this material is brought to the attention of the entire society at the first meeting after receipt, and then turned over to the proper officer or committee chairman who will make the best use of it.

Cooperation and help in ascertaining which members of the ADAA are eligible for Life Membership, will be appreciated. If any member of your society was an ADAA member in 1925, and has maintained her active membership every year since, please advise the Executive Secretary.

## NEW SOCIETIES

ARIZONA STATE DENTAL ASSISTANTS ASSN.—President, Helen Bailey, 701 Mill Ave., Tempe; Secretary, Helen Gipson, 1016 Professional Bldg., Phoenix.

NO. CALIFORNIA—Contra Costa D.A.A.—President, Kit Fraser, 2829 MacDonald Ave., Richmond; Secretary, Elsie Fernandes, 2500 Bissel Ave., Richmond.

ILLINOIS—Fox River Valley D.A.A.—President, Dorothy Diekman, 102 No. Spring Street, Elgin; Secretary, Mary Brady, 141 No. Hale Street, Wheaton.

PENNSYLVANIA—HANOVER DENTAL ASSISTANTS ASSN.—President, Doris M. Redding, 310 Baltimore St., Hanover; Secretary, Martha J. Kintzing, 309 Baer Avenue, Hanover.

OHIO—Youngstown D.A.A.—President, Mary Broumas, 326 W. Delason Ave., Youngstown; Secretary, Patricia McCauley, 5602 Southern Blvd., Youngstown.

WEST VIRGINIA—Huntington D.A.A.—President, Mary Corkrean, 1504 Sixth Ave., Huntington; Secretary, LeVerna McClure, 2925 Piedmont Road, Huntington.

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NO. CALIF.—Fresno Dist. D.A.A.—President, Barbara Bartlett, Fulton-Fresno Bldg., Fresno; Secretary, Shirley Wong, 3100 Tulare St., Fresno.

NO. CALIF.—Napa-Solano D.A.A.—President, Vicki Hunter, 601 Georgia St., Vallejo.

NO. CALIF.—Sacramento Dist. D.A.A.—President, Jerrie Silvers, 2104 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento; Secretary, Frances McLean, 2024 N Street, Sacramento.

NO. CALIF.—San Francisco Dist. D.A.A.—Secretary, Betty Delenikos, 410 Head Street, San Francisco, 25.

NO. CALIF.—San Joaquin D.A.A.—President, Yolanda Cosens, 517 Channel, Apt. 103, Stockton; Secretary, Josephine Catanzaro, 739 Sullivan Ave., Stockton.

NO. CALIF.—Santa Clara Dist. D.A.A.—President, Grace Penny Plum, 641 Madison St., Santa Clara; Secretary, Martha Tamblin, 548 Benton St., Santa Clara.

NO. CALIF.—Sonoma Dist. D.A.A.—President, Wanda Mooney, 1705 King St., Santa Rosa; Secretary, Theresa Rossi, 503 Rosenberg Bldg., Santa Rosa.

NO. CALIF.—Yosemite Dist. D.A.A.—President, Ruth Moore, 922 Jay St., Modesto; Secretary, Bette Schut, 1117 Beverly Drive, Modesto.

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SO. CALIF.—Los Angeles D.A.A.—President, Sylvia Powers, 4330½ Leimert Blvd., Los Angeles; Secretary, Frances Bolt, 3828½ Tracy, Los Angeles, 27.

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SO. CALIF.—San Diego County D.A.A.—President, Rosalie Polzer, 4589 Euclid Ave., San Diego, 15.

SO. CALIF.—Third District D.A.A.—President, Cay Rommel, 4506 Barker Way, Long Beach, 14; Secretary, Mary Joyce Patterson, 1945 Pacific Ave., Long Beach, 6.

SO. CALIF.—Tri-County D.A.A.—Secretary, Mildred Kathman, 212½ South "D" St., Ontario.

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FLORIDA—St. Petersburg D.A.A.—President, Eleanor Terry, 353 80th Ave., St. Petersburg.

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GEORGIA—Eastern District D.A. & H.A.—President, Jane W. Killgore, 329 Telfair St., Augusta; Secretary, Elizabeth W. McMurray, 623 Greene Street, Augusta.

GEORGIA—Northern District D.A.A.—President, Joy Barton, 702 Medical Arts Bldg., Atlanta 9; Secretary, Ruth Barber, 923 Doctors Bldg., Atlanta 3.

GEORGIA—Southeastern District D.A.S.—President, Kathryn Morrissey, DeSoto Hotel, Savannah; Secretary, Harlette Stone, Veterans Adm., 212 Blun Bldg., Savannah.

GEORGIA—Southwestern District D.A.S.—President, Eleanor Smith Gordon, P. O. Box 64, Brunswick.

ILLINOIS STATE DENTAL ASSTS. ASSN.—President, Nancy Saunders, 1706 Farragut, Chicago 40; Secretary, Patricia Erickson, 1725 East State St., Rockford.

INDIANA—Ft. Wayne D.A.A.—President, Bertha Lillevig, 508 Wayne Pharmacal Bldg., Ft. Wayne.

INDIANA—Indianapolis D.A.A.—Secretary, Frances Dickinson, 36 So. Pennsylvania St., Vet. Adm., Indianapolis.

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IOWA—Waterloo District D.A.A.—Secretary, Madeline Boehme, 956 Parker St., Waterloo.

KANSAS—Wichita D.A. Study Club—President, Mary Waldrip, 1013 First Natl. Bank Bldg., Wichita; Secretary, Martha Moody, 1010 Schweiter, Wichita.

MASSACHUSETTS—North Shore District D.A.A.—Secretary, Imelda McGrath, 7 Central Square, Lynn.

NEBRASKA—Lincoln D.A.A.—President, Ola Lewandowski, 919 Federal Sec. Bldg., Lincoln.

NEW YORK—Hudson Valley D.A. & H. Soc.—President, Frances Delia, 56 Noxon Street, Poughkeepsie; Secretary, Sally Mariack, 55 So. Hamilton St., Poughkeepsie.

NEW YORK—Schenectady D.A.A.—President, Gene Bartnicki, 24 Jay St., Schenectady; Secretary, Marilyn Weber, 1595 Union St., Schenectady.

OHIO—Cleveland D.A.A.—President, Mabel Hull, 2980 Mayfield Road, Cleveland; Secretary, Doris Rutt, 9816 Nicholas Ave., Cleveland.

OHIO—Lorain County D.A.S.—President, Margaret Lott, 128 Forest Hill Drive, Avon Lake; Secretary, Viola Jaunch, 2003 East 30th St., Lorain.

OHIO—Northwestern Ohio D.A.A.—President, Mary Blank, 701 National Bank Bldg., Lima; Secretary, Blanche Langan, 1404 Cook Tower, Lima.

OHIO—Stark County D.A.A.—President, Kathleen Nezbeth, 306 City Savings Bldg., Alliance; Secretary, Florence Ortwein, 839 State Avenue, N. E., Massillon.

PENNSYLVANIA—Pittsburgh D.A.A.—President, Genevieve Conforti, 817 Main St., Pittsburgh 15; Secretary, Gloria Nestor, 3608 North Court, Pittsburgh 5.

SOUTH DAKOTA DENTAL ASSTS. ASSN.—Secretary—Mayme Nelson, 1508 So. Minn. Ave., Sioux Falls.

SO. DAKOTA—Mitchell D.A. Study Club—Secretary, Lovella Jurgensen, Realty Bldg., Mitchell.

SO. DAKOTA—Sioux Falls D.A. Study Club—Secretary, Evelyn Boese, 203 Boyce-Greeley Bldg., Sioux Falls.

TENNESSEE—Chattanooga D.A. Soc.—President, Charlotte Stephenson, 711 Hamilton Nat'l Bank Bldg.; Secretary, Virginia Davis, 519 McCallie Ave., Chattanooga.

TENNESSEE—First District D.A. Soc.—President, Annis Daufherty, Hicks Bldg., Kingsport; Secretary, Helen Smith, 242 East Center, Kingsport.

TENNESSEE—Memphis D.A. Soc.—President, Lillian Howard, 3539 Walker, Memphis.

TENNESSEE—Nashville D.A. Soc.—Secretary, Thelma Finch, 914 Bennie-Dillon Bldg., Nashville.

TEXAS—Houston District D.A.A.—Secretary, Margaret Carter, 812 Medical Arts Bldg., Houston.

TEXAS—South Plains District D.A.A.—President, Vera Darby, 104 S. E. 4th St., Plainview; Secretary, Peggy McKinney, 900 Broadway, Plainview.

WASHINGTON—Spokane D.A. Soc.—President, Pauline Winger, 1171 Paulsen Bldg., Spokane; Secretary, Margaret Hayfield, 1011 Paulsen M. & D. Bldg., Spokane.

WEST VIRGINIA—New River D.A.A.—President, Ann Conner, 713 So. Oakwood Ave., Beckley.

WEST VIRGINIA—Wheeling District D.A. Soc.—Secretary, Mencie E. Mulheran, 808 Central Union Bldg., Wheeling.

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### CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THIS SPRING

The Louisville District Dental Assistants Society, Louisville, Kentucky, will have their first Certification examination on March 27, 1950. It will be held at T. M. Crutcher's Dental Laboratory, Louisville, Kentucky.

West Virginia—Certification Examination to be held on Sunday, May 14th, 1950 at Cabell Hotel, Huntington, West Virginia.

Texas—Certification Examination to be held on Sunday, April 23rd, 1950, Stoneligh Hotel, Dallas, Texas.

Evelyn Altman, Chairman.

Indiana—Certification Examination to be held on Sunday, May 14th, 1950, Indiana University School of Dentistry.

Sadie Leach, Chairman.

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Progress is being made in the organization of a new Staff for THE DENTAL ASSISTANT. Announcements will be made in the May-June issue of the Journal, which will be the last issue to be edited by Sadie Leach. Send all material for the May-June issue to Sadie Leach, 1029½ Madison street, LaPorte, Indiana, including material for the Views of the News department. Material must be in her hands not later than April 10th.

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A few years ago the Journal Staff received frequent requests for Binders for copies of THE DENTAL ASSISTANT. We had several hundred of these Binders made up; there are still a number of them available at the Central Office. The binders are good looking, in blue imitation leather with THE DENTAL ASSISTANT in gold lettering on the outside cover. They will contain eighteen issues (3 years) of the Journal. The price is \$2.00. Write to the Subscription Manager, Mrs. Dorothy Kowalczyk, 410 First National Bank Building, LaPorte, Indiana.

# *American Dental Assistants Association*

## 1949-50 STANDING COMMITTEES

### JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

Blanche Overpeck, Chairman, '50 ..... 1201 Hulman Building, Dayton, Ohio  
Verena Strassburg, '50 ..... Masonic Temple Bldg., Watertown, Wisc.  
Nancy Hungate, '50 ..... 202 South 53rd St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
Aileen Ferguson, '51 ..... 709 Centre Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass.  
Steve Ann Montgomery, Gen. Sec. .... 5114 Bowser, Dallas, Texas

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Iva M. Barker, Chairman, '50 ..... 124 West 6th Street, Newton, Kansas  
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Treva Burkle, '50 ..... P. O. Box 501, Newport Richey, Florida  
Florence Smith, '51 ..... 120 West 8th St., Bayonne, New Jersey  
Nancy Saunders, '51 ..... 1706 W. Farragut, Chicago 40, Ill.

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Ruth Walker, '50 ..... 215 Dodge St., Palatka, Florida  
Virginia Hoffman, '51 ..... 3361 Portola St., Pittsburgh, Penna.  
Margaret Leedom, '51 ..... 6418 Leighton St., Lincoln, Nebr.  
Nelle Mitchell, Chm. ADAC Board ... 615 Wiley Bldg., Hutchinson, Kansas

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Frances Corbett, Chairman, '50 ..... 2612 Gardener, Spokane, Washington  
Annie Carroll, '50 ..... 129 Irwin St., Spartanburg, So. Car.  
Bethel Yench, '50 ..... Box 764, New Rochelle, New York  
Roberta Wineteer, '51 ..... 1010 Schweiter Bldg., Wichita, Kans.  
Jenn Sullivan, '51 ..... 1006 Hulman Bldg., Evansville, Ind.

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Laura Willard, '50 ..... 107½ N. College Ave., Bloomington, Ind.  
Mae Lavery, '50 ..... 750 Main St., Hartford, Conn.  
Helen Bailey, '51 ..... P. O. Box 537, Tempe, Arizona  
Yen Kew Lum, '51 ..... 312 James Campbell Bldg., Honolulu, T. H.

### BUDGET COMMITTEE (1 year terms)

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Helene Meyers, '50 ..... 1010 Union Central Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio  
Lo Rena Kelly, Treasurer ..... 510½ Main Street, Newton, Kansas

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Ruth Doring, Sec.-Treas., '50 ..... 85 Park Street, Montclair, New Jersey  
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Helen Fitting, '51 ..... 91 W. Greenwood Ave., Lansdowne, Penna.

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Helen P. Simpson, '51 .... 2117 Kenilworth Ave., Los Angeles 39, California  
Sadie Hadley, '50 ..... 163 Cabot Street, Beverly, Mass.  
Ruth Rogers, '51 ..... Michigan Dept. of Health, Lansing, Michigan

### HELPFUL HINTS and SUGGESTIONS

(From Missouri State D.A.A. Bulletin)

- To clean glass saliva ejectors, use a pipe cleaner with a weak solution of muriatic acid and rinse carefully.
- Non-skid applicators are made by notching the end of the applicator before winding the cotton onto it.
- To keep the mercury bottle spotlessly clean, fill it occasionally with hydrochloric acid, let it stand for a little while—then rinse carefully. The acid will completely remove the grey film which forms on the inside of the bottle.
- To clean burs, use a wire suede brush, then scrub thoroughly with soap and water and place in container of cold sterilizing solution.
- To prevent modeling compound from sticking to fingers, rub a bit of vaseline on the fingers and on the teeth too, when taking modeling compound copper band impressions.
- When filling upper anterior teeth, the cotton roll will stay up under the lip better if it is notched to fit under the frenum.
- Cut cotton rolls in parallelograms with two very acute angles instead of rectangles for greater comfort.
- Small sticker labels, neatly typed or printed attached to the bottles, then painted over with clear nail polish will allow cleaning of bottles without injury to labels.
- To get that high polish, on models soak them overnight in a saturated solution of castile soap and water, dry thoroughly, rub well with chamois or kleenex.
- To clean hardened amalgam from the serrations of clogged amalgam plungers, heat the points and dip them in muriatic acid.
- Use low fusing metal, for casts of occluding bite models. Take a snap impression in plaster and pour in low fusing metal. After it cools articulate for setup and set on articulators. This will eliminate the possibility of losing or changing the bite because of the teeth in the stone or plaster occluding models wearing down and will aid in obtaining centric occlusion after the denture is processed.
- File all Porcelain Jackets, dies and models for future use in case of accidents.

To clean impression trays of the few stubborn bits of compound and plaster, heat a piece of scrap pink base plates wax or bees wax in the tray by passing it through the bunsen burner. As it all softens, wipe it on a kleenex or an old cloth. The tray will be cleaned and polished at the same time.

A Camel's hair brush, and the compressed air syringe are excellent to clean and dust bur block, the stone block and the tiny inaccessible crevices on the engine arm, especially the wheels.

Mark Doctor's initials on all impression trays and articulators with a No. 1 round burr. It will act as identification and always insure their return.

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### BOOKS YOU SHOULD OWN

A book that should be in the possession of every Dental Assistant is G. Archanna Morrison's book, "In the Dentist's Office." It is a dynamic book written by a dynamic person; it is an excellent short course in Dental Assisting, outlining General Office Duties, Operating Room procedure and the Assistant's or Secretary's duties in the field of Public Relations.

The chuckle you will get from the thumb-nail sketches on the inside front cover is worth the price of the book, which is \$5.00. J. B. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa., Publishers.

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Dr. Herbert Ely Williams, "the Sage of Red Bank" has written a real human document, entitled "Humanizing Our Great Profession." The book contains the philosophy of a man who loves Dentistry, and whose life has been enriched by the practice of his profession. It is a book to read, and a book to pick up and browse through; it will give you a life and a chuckle, all the way through. May be procured by writing: Herbert Ely Williams, D. D. S., Red Bank, New Jersey. Price \$4.00.

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### TO A GROVE OF SILVER BIRCHES

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Good morning, lovely ladies! I've<br>never seen<br>you half so fair, — I swear;<br>How beautiful your gowns of apple-<br>green!<br>And the ribbons in your hair!           | Dear winsome vestals, your flurry is<br>no whim.<br>I know your sly design;<br>And why the sap goes pulsing up<br>each limb<br>Sparkling as apple wine.    |
| What rapture do you await? What<br>coming swain?<br>Such rustling of petticoats!<br>Such wagging of heads and prinking<br>in the rain!<br>Such fluttering at your throats! | O ladies, trick you in your gala-best;<br>for out of the ardent South,<br>Young April comes with a passion<br>in his breast,<br>And a kiss upon his mouth. |

—From "Slow Smoke" by Lew Sarett

# Views of the News

By Dorothy McLeese

I thought the last issue of the Journal would be the last one for me to send you the Views of the News but here I find myself doing it again. As I was reading the paper the other evening I found a poem which I think has a very good thought.

## LIKE AS WE DO

He was a bitter man who found  
Cold welcome on his daily round.  
Men smiled at him but once, and then  
Decided not to smile again.  
And since he spoke no friendly word,  
Seldom a greeting gay he heard.  
"Where'er I go clerks seem to be  
Bothered to have to wait on me.  
"They're all alike!" he'd often say.  
"There is no courtesy today.  
Most people pleasant? Shop or Street,  
Only the churlish ones I meet."  
We shape the world in which we live,  
Receiving as we think to give.  
This is a truth that's quickly learned.  
Who frowns will see a frown returned.  
Who will himself not gracious be,  
Few gracious folk will ever see.

—By Edgar Guest

## FIRST DISTRICT—MASSACHUSETTS

The MDAA will hold its annual meeting May 2nd and 3rd at the Hotel Statler in Boston, at which time the capping services will be held for the girls who have completed the certification course and passed the examinations.

Three new study courses are under way, one at the Springfield Vocational School, another at New Bedford and one in Boston at the headquarters of the Massachusetts Dental Society.

Our best wishes to Corinne Dubuc, of Pawtucket, R. I., who succeeds Esther Hyland, of Boston, as Trustee for the First District.

## METROPOLITAN DISTRICT—

A joint meeting of the Metropolitan and North Shore Districts was held on November 16, 1949, at Forsythe Dental Infirmary in Boston. Miss Caroline Hawks, of the Dental Supply Company of New York, was speaker for the evening. Miss Hawks presented a very interesting talk on "You and Your Public."

Our Christmas dinner meeting was held on December 14, 1949 at Pattens Restaurant. Each member was asked to bring toys, games or books which were donated to the Peabody Home for Crippled Children.

Guests for the evening were our State Officers, Phyllis Morgan, President; Esther Hyland, Secretary; Dr. Arno Bommer, Advisor for the Metropolitan District.

—Beth B. Augus,  
Ch. Publicity

## THE DENTAL ASSISTANTS STUDY CLUB OF THE SECOND DISTRICT

If it were to be said that the D. A. S. C. is off to a good start for 1950, they certainly ended 1949 with a grand finale! The Greater New York December meeting with Shirley Muhlbauer as Friday A. M. clinician with "Hints and Gadgets" was most enthusiastically attended and exceptionally well presented. Violet Arnold deserves commendation for her P. M. clinic "Attractive Reception Room" and her Tom, Dick and Harry (goldfish) were the center of attraction in that trick fishbowl. The interest shown was most gratifying.

December 16th—the Gala Day for the Study Club began with the impressive Installation of Officers ceremony. Alice Weeks, our only "honorary member" acted as Installation Officer with Lillian Couch assisting. Jane Lux sat at the "Friendship Table" and presented candles to the newly elected officers. Lodie Etheridge, retiring president, relinquished the Gavel to Betty Hittlin. The solemnity of the services created a hushed silence while the officers were



presented to the new president. Each took her place at the dais. Betty Hitlin presented Lodie Etheridge with the gift from the membris. Appropriately, it is a solid gold miniature gavel with the Study Club pin attached thereon. Engraved on the head of the gavel is "L. C. E. 1949." The pin is small enough to be worn on the uniform. Mrs. Etheridge accepted the honor graciously and thanked the members. She conveyed her congratulations to Miss Hitlin and hoped she might receive the same cooperation from the new officers. Miss Hitlin then conducted her first meeting. Chairmen were appointed and motion made to commence with the annual Christmas Party. Mary Anselmo, Ruth Meyerson and Shirley Muhlbauer were excellent hostesses. Surprise of the event was the presence of our beloved Janet Seismann who has resigned after many many years of devoted and untiring endeavors toward bettering the Dental Assistant. A more pleasant "treat" could not have been in store for us.

Through the efforts of Jane Lux and Sylvia Schwartz, a collection of clothes, toys and trinkets were presented to the Beekman Street Hospital for the underprivileged ill folk. Even our usual "Santa's grab bag exchange gifts" were donated. I'm sure every one of us felt a little more "Christmas Spirit" for having done so.

The Program for 1950 is a grand one. Aside from our 104-Hour Extension Study Course which will continue until May 10th (Certification Examination planned for May 27th at 7:30 P. M. Second District Dental Society Headquarters) our Club meets the third Friday of the month at One Hanson Place, Brooklyn, New York. January 20th, we will have "Greetings from the Second District Dental Society President, Dr. A. G. Wagner" and a visit (and reports) from the Second District Trustee, Miss Jeanne Loiselle. Truly a grand start.

It is my pleasure to wish every member of the A. D. A. a year of happiness and much achievement in their respective organizations.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lee M. Taras  
Publicity Chairman.

The regular February meeting of the Dental Assistants Society of the First District, N. Y., Inc., was designated "Clinic Night," being devoted to a series of table clinics on the dental assistant's work. These included "Care of X-ray Film," "Processing, Mounting and Filing Radiographs," "Dental Anatomy for the Dental Assistant," which also explained terminology, "The Dental Assistant in the Laboratory," "Hints and Gadgets," which demonstrated many useful helps in chair assistance, "The Dental Assistant Talks to the Patient," which showed how to explain diagnoses and care of the mouth in clear and non-technical language to the patient, and "Records, Recalls and Collections." Members of the Clinic Club acted as clinicians.

The classes continue to be attended with enthusiasm by the members, with worthwhile results for all. To date these classes have covered such subjects as radiology for the dental assistant, sterilization and bacteriology, model-making, inlay investing and casting, copper die making, first aid, and chair assistance. The Clinic Club, too, is holding enthusiastic meetings on the second Friday of each month, under the leadership of Louella Dopp. At each meeting a different phase of dental assisting is analyzed and demonstrated by means of table clinics and many valuable ideas are exchanged. One of the members, Dorothy Foster, will present "Dental Anatomy for the Dental Assistant" at the Annual Meeting of the Dental Assistants Association of New York State on June 8th at the Statler Hotel in New York City.

The Society meets regularly on the third Friday evening of each month at the Hotel Statler, N. Y. C. The members of the Society are looking forward with pleasure to greeting visitors to the State Meeting in June.

The February and March meetings of the Dental Assistants Society of the First District, N. Y., Inc., were devoted to the presentation of table clinics on the dental assistant's work. A series of five clinics were given by members of the Clinic Club at the regular meeting on February 17th at the Hotel Statler in N. Y. C. These covered the care of X-ray film, dental anatomy and terminology for the dental assistant, laboratory assistance, patient relations, processing, mounting and filing radiographs, records, recalls and collections. The prize-winning clinic, selected by the membership from the above, was presented at the March 17th meeting, which was held in conjunction with the Brooklyn Study Club.

The program of classes is in full swing, in charge of Rachel Rowland, Chairman of Classes. During February and March, a class on first aid was given by the American Red Cross and a class of four sessions was held on the topic of inlay carving, investing and casting. The Clinic Club, under the leadership of Louella Dopp, is meeting regularly on the second Friday of each month to prepare table clinics for presentation before the regular meetings of the Society and upon invitation, before groups of dentists and dental assistants. At the June meeting of the Dental Assistants Association of New York State, Dorothy Foster will present "Dental Anatomy for the Dental Assistant," which also explains dental terminology. At the

meetings of the Club, the members hold informal discussions and many interesting and valuable ideas on dental assisting are exchanged. All members of the Dental Assistants Society of the First District, N. Y., Inc., are welcome to participate in the activities of the Club.

Plans are being made to join the Blue Cross hospitalization program, as a group. Details will be ready shortly.

The Society meets regularly on the third Friday evening of each month at the Hotel Statler in N. Y. C., under the leadership of Sylvia Hauser, President. Members of the dental profession are always welcome; dental assistants are invited to attend the meetings and to become members.

The members of the Society extend greetings to the members of the Dental Assistants Association of the State of New York, at their Annual Meeting and look forward to extending a personal welcome to New York on the occasion of the President's Tea.

Sylvia Danenbaum  
Chairman, Publicity.

## SECOND DISTRICT—

### NEW JERSEY STATE DENTAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION

The New Jersey State Dental Assistants Association is planning a One-Day Meeting in April in Newark, instead of meeting with the Doctors in Atlantic City. Because of the National Convention coming so close in October many of the girls would be unable to attend both sessions.

They are planning a banquet, and will invite the Dental Hygienists. They will not present any Clinics at this time.

The Education Committee of the Essex County Dental Assistants Association has been working hard and finally gotten the Certification Course lined up. They have had splendid cooperation from the Doctors who are teaching the Course, which started Feb. 6th. They hope applications on the part of the girls will exceed their expectations.

Charlotte Myers  
Publicity Chairman.

## THIRD DISTRICT—

The Erie County Dental Assistants Association held its first dinner meeting of the fall season September 27, 1949 in the Blue Room of the Vets Club. The meeting was called to order immediately after dinner by President Delores Haft; then, by candlelight, we held our installation ceremony. Newly elected President Evelyn Suminski then conducted the meeting, appointing her committees, etc., for the year 1949-1950.

The next meeting was held October 25th. Our speaker was Mrs. Mary Hadlow, traffic supervisor of the Pennsylvania Telephone Corporation. Her interesting talk on "How To Make Friends—By Telephone" was well received by our girls as she reviewed the fact that the telephone is more than just a dust catcher on our desks.

Our November meeting brought us Mr. Joseph Klingler, district representative for Johnson & Johnson products which we are all familiar with. Mr. Klingler, with his able assistant from one of our local supply houses, furnished an enjoyable evening of questions and answers and free samples.

Our December meeting was our fourth annual Christmas banquet held at the Barn . . . no business . . . strictly pleasure . . . and now we are ready to start the New Year with our first meeting Monday, January 23rd, at The Barn (aside to Editor . . . the food is excellent here and we always have a much better attendance when good food goes along with a meeting.) Dr. F. A. Stewart our guest and speaker for the evening.

—Marion M. Israelson  
Publicity Chairman.

## FOURTH DISTRICT—

During the past month the New Orleans chapter of the Dental Assistants Association has been very actively employed in a conference and election of officers for the coming year.

In the middle of November the New Orleans Dental Association had its annual conference in the Roosevelt Hotel. The assistants were pleased and honored to respond to a call from the Doctors for table clinics. Two clinics were given, one by Mrs. Helen P. Bendler, on the "American Dental Assistants Association." The idea was to acquaint the doctors with our history, study course and progress thus far. The second clinic was on "Aids in Office Management" by Mrs. Elsie Kloppenburg. Each clinician was given a key by the Dental Association to show its appreciation for our help in making the conference a huge success.

The annual election of officers for 1950 took place at our last regular monthly meeting. On December 14th we had our Christmas party at the home of one of our members, Mrs. Melvina Currere. A very merry time was had by all.



The coming year will find us increasing our activity. The first Sunday in the New-Year was the scene of an afternoon tea at which time the new officers were installed with the candlelight ceremony so dear to all of us.

—Elsie Kloppenburg  
Publicity Chairman.

#### MIAMI DISTRICT DENTAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION FOURTH DISTRICT

The Miami District Dental Assistants Association used the beautiful and impressive Rainbow Candlelight Installation services to install their new officers for the year 1950. They are as follows: Evelyn Agey, President; Sue Ives, First Vice President; Nell Champion, Secretary, and Peggy Shaw, Treasurer

A new association was started by the Miami Association in Ft. Lauderdale and is called the Broward County Dental Assistants Association. We are proud of them. They are going strong and have started the 104 Hour Study Course.

The Miami Association started registration for the 104 Hour Study Course which will start Monday, January 16.

The Florida State had a most successful and interesting meeting in West Palm Beach in November. The second Certification Examination was given; the educational program and entertainment was wonderful and everyone enjoyed it very much.

The Miami Association was Hostess to the visiting Dental Assistants at the East Coast Dental Society meeting held Saturday, January 7, at the Stevens Hotel, Miami Beach. Registration was at 9 a. m. At 10:30 a. m. there was a two-hour boat ride on the Nikko which was very nice. The luncheon was served at 1:30 p. m. and the highlight of the day was at 2:30 p. m. when Dr. Gaylor J. James of the Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, spoke to us. His subject was "If I Were a Dental Assistant." His talk was very wonderful and impressive.

—Miss Christine Hamilton,  
Publicity Chairman,  
498 N. E. 78th St.,  
Miami, Fla.

#### SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT DENTAL ASSISTANTS SOCIETY NEW OFFICERS FOR 1950

Left to right: Mrs. Harriette Stone, Savannah, Ga., Secretary and Treasurer; Mrs. Kathryn Morrissey, Savannah, Ga., President; Mrs. Betty Lyle, Savannah, Ga., Vice President.





#### TIDEWATER D. A. A. INSTALLATION

Reading from left to right: Marilyn Fine, Treasurer; Lois Inge, Corresponding Secretary; Mary Shaber, Recording Secretary; Eleanor Gee, Vice-President; Pat Mason, President, and Prula Barrett, Installing Officer.

#### FIFTH DISTRICT—

The Annual Banquet and installation of 1950 officers of the Tidewater (Virginia) Dental Assistants Association was held January 11, 1950 at the Windsor House, Norfolk, Virginia. The "Myers Cup" was presented to the outgoing president, Miss Christine Rus; the incoming president, Miss Pat Mason, received a corsage.

#### LOUISVILLE DISTRICT DENTAL ASSISTANT SOCIETY

The Louisville District Dental Assistant Society held their monthly meeting on January 10th at the Seelbach Hotel. Two new members were welcomed to our Society.

After dinner, Mr. Wilbur Crawford of the Associated Press spoke to us on "Journalism."

At the business meeting, Ada Louise Thompson, Chairman of the Education Committee, reported that our examination for Certification will be Monday evening, March 27th, at T. M. Crutcher Dental Depot at 7:00 p. m.

Our annual banquet will be held March 29th at the Brown Hotel. This of course will be during the State Dental meeting. We wish at this time to invite all the girls in the state to attend this banquet. For reservations call or write Betty Vance, care of Dr. David Woloshin, 607 Heyburn Bldg.—Cl. 1066, or Dorothy Lietz, care of Dr. J. R. King, 784 Clarke Bldg., Wa. 5717, Louisville, Ky.

—Jean Vornbrock,  
618 Starke Bldg.,  
Louisville, Ky.

#### SIXTH DISTRICT—

From reading the D. A. Reporter from the Wisconsin Dental Assistants Association it looks like they are a busy bunch of girls. They held their state meeting in Madison during the last week end in October. Several helpful hints were given by their members.

#### SEVENTH DISTRICT—

St. Paul District of the A. D. A. A., 1949 in review.

A monthly meeting was held the first Friday of each month, except during the summer, when we met informally at picnics and wiener roasts. The business meetings were followed by a guest speaker and a social hour, when coffee was served by our efficient refreshment committee.

Aside from these pleasant evenings, three events stand out in the memories of our members.

A choral group of a dozen of our members was organized early in 1949. These girls entertained at the State Convention, and again at the districts' annual Christmas party. Guests at the party were our employers and their wives. A number of carols were sung by the little choir, to the delight of all.

Under the able leadership of our president, Miss Audrey Rouleau, a membership campaign was launched that ended triumphantly at the National Convention, when the St. Paul Association was presented with the Oral Hygiene Trophy Cup for membership increase. It was a thrill, and all the letters folded, and envelopes sealed, were worth it.

Last and most important, a course for D. A.'s was inaugurated at the University of Minnesota. In June, 1950, when the course is completed, those D. A.'s taking it will have the necessary 104 hours required for certification. At the time of our State Convention this year, several Minnesota D. A.'s who have worked as such for ten years or more, will be certified. Next year we hope to add greatly to their number.

That was 1949. 1950 is here and foremost in our minds right now is the State Convention to be held in St. Paul this year, February 20, 21 and 22. The program for this, the 29th annual meeting, which is held in conjunction with the Minnesota State Dental Association follows:

#### **EIGHTH DISTRICT—**

Missouri State Dental Assistants will hold their annual state meeting in Kansas City May 7-10th. The Certification examination will be given at this time.

Dr. J. W. Gray of St. Louis will be speaker for the Springfield Assistants and Doctors next meeting.

—Dorothy Jennings,  
Reporter.

#### **OMAHA DENTAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION**

The certification classes started October 27, 1949, meeting on Monday and Thursday of each week. The total enrollment is 17 girls, 5 of them coming from Fremont, Nebraska.

Instructors for the Certification Class are Dr. T. Quigley, M. D., on "Nutrition," Dr. Wm. Brennan, D. D. S., "Anatomy"; Dr. C. Mueller, D. D. S., "Orthodontia"; Dr. J. Klein, D. D. S., "Pedodontia"; Dr. W. Hemphil, D. D. S., "Terminology"; Dr. R. Drake, D. D. S., "Office Management"; Dr. Weaver, D. D. S., "Crown and Bridge"; Dr. F. Paynter, D. D. S., "Pharmacology"; Dr. H. Merchant, D. D. S., "Chair Assisting"; Dr. R. Yechout, "Pathology"; Dr. E. Dailey, D. D. S., "X-Ray"; Dr. L. Donahoe, D. D. S., "Oral Hygiene"; Dr. W. Key, D. D. S., "Local Anesthesia"; Dr. Bauser, M., "Bacteriology and Sterilization"; Dr. H. Thompson, M. D., "General Anesthesia"; Dr. J. Bradley, M. D., "First Aid"; Dr. E. LaPorte, D. D. S., "Partial Dentures", and Dr. S. Piccolo, D. D. S., "Full Dentures."

Ten of the seventeen girls enrolled will be eligible for examination in May, 1950. The fee for the course this year is \$10.00.

Our regular meetings and programs are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month and the programs since the last publication of the Journal are as follows:

On November 26, 1949, we were happy to have a tea honoring our National President, Miss Mary Haney of Omaha, Nebraska. It was held at the Omaha Women's Club. The committee sent out 250 invitations to the dental assistants of Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota and to the dentists of Omaha, Nebraska.

In December our annual Christmas party with Santa, a Christmas tree, gifts and a hilarious time. There were thirty-two girls present.

January 24, 1950, Dr. Ellen Kelley spoke to us about her trip to Sweden. An open discussion was held. We discussed Sweden's dentistry and the role the dental assistant plays in Sweden.

February 14, 1950, we had a Valentine Party with Mrs. Ruth Kipling as our hostess. February 28 Mabel Urwiller will give a clinic on "Mixing of Cements and Plastic Fillings."

March 14, a clinic "Miss Efficiency and Miss I Don't Care" will be given by Ruth Morgan and Phyllis Capella.

March 28, Clinic by Marjorie Hodapp, (title unknown).

April 11, Dr. Nelson of the Veterans Administration will speak to us on "Procedures of Investing Wax Patterns."

May 8, Certification Examinations.

May 8-9-10, Nebraska State Dental Assistants Convention to be held at the Castle Hotel in Omaha, Nebraska.

May 20, Annual May breakfast, in memory of Aloise B. Clements.

May 23, Election and Installation of Officers.

#### **WICHITA DENTAL ASSISTANTS CLUB**

Officers were elected, at a short business meeting, at the Christmas party in the home of Vickie Baba. They will be installed at the January meeting.

Mr. Fred M. Lee of the L. D. Caulk & Co., will be the speaker for the January meeting. His topic will be "Kadon."

Plans are being made for starting another Certification course soon.

#### **KANSAS NEWS**

The last issue of our state bulletin consisted of the delegates' report of the National Meeting in San Francisco. Each delegate was responsible for one day of the meeting. She reported on her respective day and anything of interest outside of the meeting. It also included notes from the Eighth District Trustee, K. S. D. A. A. officers, and the state membership chairman. From all reports it was enjoyed by all.

The Barton County Dental Assistants Society has been approved as a component society to A. D. A. A.

The Certification examination will be held Sunday, May 7th, at the Kansas City Western Dental College, Kansas City, Missouri. The examination will be given with the Missouri Dental Assistants Association preceding our Bi-State Meeting, May 7, 8, 9 and 10th.

—Trudy Parker,

#### **NEWS FROM FORT WORTH DISTRICT DENTAL ASSISTANTS SOCIETY**

Dr. D. R. Isem of Shreveport, La., spoke to the Ft. Worth girls at their November meeting. Our bosses were our guests. Dr. Isem's talk was on Oral Surgery, and we hope he can visit us again soon.

#### **December Meeting—Annual Christmas Party**

Esther Osborn and Jewel Calahurn attended the National Meeting in San Francisco. They came back with some very interesting reports for the less fortunate who had to stay home.

Several girls will be ready for their certification examination in April at the State Convention in Dallas. Good luck, girls!

—Mary Louise Lawrence,  
State Reporter, S. S. D. A.,  
Fort Worth, Texas.

#### **November Meeting**

The Dallas County Dental Assistants met in regular session at the Y. M. C. A. on Tuesday, November 22nd, at 6:15 with President Verle Hundley presiding.

Most interesting reports were given by Mary Barlow, delegate, and Leta Featherstone, alternate, of the Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Dallas girls are very happy to have Steve Montgomery as our new General Secretary of the A. D. A. A.

#### **December Meeting**

A Christmas party was held in the home of Dr. Pat Mitchell. Gifts were exchanged and lovely refreshments were served.

The Texas Association of Dental Assistants have announced their annual meeting in Dallas, April 23-27, 1950, with headquarters at the Stoneleigh Hotel, Maple Avenue. Mary Barrow, secretary of Dallas County Dental Assistants Society, 1020 Medical Arts Bldg., urges all assistants to mark the above dates on the appointment book so they and their doctors may attend their respective meetings in Dallas.



Standing left to right are Houston District Dental Assistants outgoing officers for 1949: Board Members, Mrs. Betty Brown, Mrs. Angie Montalbano, Miss Willie Mae Mallick, Mrs. Dorothy McLeese, Miss Lois Kline, President Mrs. Evelyn Easter, Secretary Mrs. Cecilia Norman, Treasurer Mrs. Annella Larsen, Sergeant at Arms Miss Doris Johnson and our Eighth District Trustee Mrs. Violet L. Crowley.

Examination for Certification for Dental Assistants are being planned for Sunday, April 23rd, preceding our State Meeting in April.

—Lucille Pollard,  
Reporter,  
Dallas County Dental  
Assistants Society.

Houston District Dental Assistants held their annual Banquet and Installation service at the Houston Club in December. They had a very interesting meeting in January with Dr. Denton Kerr as guest speaker giving some very educational facts on First Aid in the Dental Office.

Houston District Dental Assistants are having a well attended and enthusiastic group of girls taking the 104 Hour Study Course.

The Southern Wisconsin Dental Hygienists and Assistants Association elected the following officers for the coming year:

President, Rosella Early.  
Vice President, Margaret Tyrrell.  
Secretary, Alice Bowden.  
Treasurer, Betty Ayer.  
Board Member, Mary O'Dea.

Marie Johnson, Portage, Wisc., Vice President American Dental Assistants Association, talked on certification.

Sincerely,  
Lotus M. West,

#### NINTH DISTRICT—

The highlight from Oregon this month will be the Oregon State Dental Assistants Association convention to be held March 6-8 at the Masonic Temple in Portland, Oregon.

Mr. James Robinson, executive secretary of the Southern California Dental Association, will be the main speaker at the convention.

The business meetings will be held on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Following the morning session on Wednesday a luncheon honoring the clinicians will be held. Many interesting and useful clinics will be presented on Wednesday afternoon.

The installation of officers will take place after the formal banquet on Wednesday evening, March 8. The Certification course in Portland is progressing with its 21 members in the first class and 23 enrolled in the laboratory class.

—Peggy Skonetzni,  
2128 S. E. Hemlock,  
Portland, Oregon.

#### SEATTLE DISTRICT DENTAL ASSISTANTS SOCIETY

The Seattle District Dental Assistants Society started the New Year with the first meeting of our new president, Ruth Chabot and her officers, on January 4, 1950, at the Gowman Hotel. Dr. J. I. Markey and Dr. J. M. Deines, members of the Dental Assistants Advisory Committee, were special guests. Dr. Markey has been newly appointed to the committee and his first question was, "What is the purpose of your organization?" We were glad for the opportunity to explain the object and the aims of our Association. Dr. Markey and Dr. Deines then arranged for our president, Ruth Chatbot, and your reporter to attend the Seattle District Dental Society meeting January 10, 1950 to discuss: "The Purpose of the Dental Assistants Association." We are grateful to Dr. Clyde Flood, president of the Seattle Dental Society, for the honor and opportunity of representing the Dental Assistants Association at their meeting.

Rachel Davis, Washington State Vice President and Clinic Chairman, gave her interesting delegate report on the convention at San Francisco, at our January meeting which has been eagerly awaited by all of us. Rachel also announced that there would be several clinics presented by the Dental Assistants at the Seattle District Dental Society Mid-Winter Clinic on February 24 and 25.

Dr. B. O. A. Thomas, Professor of Periodontology and Oral Histology at the University of Washington Dental School, will be guest speaker at our February 1 meeting on the subject of "Mouth Care." Dr. Thomas is always a welcome guest at our meetings.

Speaking of the University of Washington Dental School, our Certification course has reached a mid-way point and we expect our first class to be completed in July.

Yes, it looks as if it will be a good year for the Seattle District Dental Assistants Society!

—Vera Fuhrman, 500 American Bldg.,  
Publicity Chairman, Seattle, Washington.



The Northern California Dental Assistants will hold a Certification Examination on Saturday, June 24, 1950 at Lux College, San Francisco. The time is set for 1:00 p. m. Approximately sixty (60) members will take the examination. By June of 1950 nine (9) of the thirteen (13) Component Societies will have completed the 104 Hour Study Course.

Plans are under way for Northern California's State Meeting, which will be held at the Hotel Whitcomb, San Francisco, April 23 and 24, 1950.

—Dorothy M. Hodel,  
General Secretary.

#### TENTH DISTRICT—

The Fort Wayne Dental Assistants held a very beautiful and impressive Installation ceremony at their regular monthly meeting on January 12th. The meeting was a dinner meeting held in the private dining room of the Wayne Hobby House. After dinner the meeting was turned over to Mrs. Betty Holman who officiated at the Ceremony.

Members of the local society are well on their way toward achieving their goal in the certification course.

—Susan Reichar,  
Publicity Chairman.

#### METROPOLITAN DISTRICT—

The Evansville Dental Assistants held their January dinner meeting in the Fiesta Room of the Belvedere Cafe, Monday, Jan. 9.

The group decided to give a donation to the polio fund and plans were completed for a rummage sale to be held next month.

After the business meeting the "Sons of Harmony," a quartette composed of boys age 8 to 10 entertained us with some minstrel songs.

Mrs. Bettie Russell entertained with a holiday party for the Dental Assistants at her home on December 29. Winners of Canasta and Caliber prizes were Miss Martha Kremer, Miss Betty Carrell, Mrs. Bettye Conner, Mrs. Lois Kelley and Mrs. Vera Pursley.

The next meeting will be held Monday, Feb. 6.

The Evansville Dental Assistants held their February dinner meeting in the Fiesta Room of the Belvedere Cafe, Monday evening, February 6th.

Miss Ann Benninghof, a teacher in one of the local schools who spent last year in England as an exchange teacher, gave an interesting and informative talk on her experiences there as a teacher at Oxford. She accentuated her talk with colored slides.

The next meeting will be March 6th at the Belveder.

Mrs. Eileen Memmer  
Publicity Chairman.

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A new Dental Assistants group (local society) in the Tenth District, is the Lorain, Ohio, D. A. A., who entertained their employers at a lovely Christmas party at their December meeting.

Newly elected officers were installed at their January meeting; featuring a beautiful candle-light installation service.

The Ohio State D. A. A. will hold their Mid-Year meeting, Saturday and Sunday, March 11th and 12th at the Mayflower Hotel, Akron, Ohio. The theme will be an Akron version of "Gay Paree."

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Correction: The picture on page 30, January-February 1950, issue of the DENTAL ASSISTANT was the members of the Kansas State Dental Assistants who completed the first Certification Course in Kansas. (Through an error it was listed as 4th District So. California officers. Sorry, excuse it please.)

## YOUR RECEPTION ROOM

A patient's impression of the dental office is the reception room. Ordinarily the patient has a tendency to be a trifle uneasy or nervous. Therefore a feeling of relaxation should be created. This can be accomplished partly by a pleasant atmosphere in the reception room.

Greet your patients so as to make them feel welcome and at home.

A very important duty of the dental assistant is to make certain the reception room is immaculate at all times.

If space is not a problem for you, it is well to have a corner for the children. Picture books and washable toys are graciously accepted.

The following are a few hints for a more pleasant reception room:

1. Good ventilation
2. Up-to-date magazines for both children and adults
3. Cut flowers
4. Plants
5. Well chosen pictures

### STOP CHECK FORGERS NOW — "CATCH QUESTIONS AND HOW TO USE THEM"

Read the address or telephone number "incorrectly." For instance, if the address is 440 Oak Street, the bad check passer will invariably say "That is correct," because they are not sure what is correct.

Ask about fictitious neighbors. Say, "420 Oak Street, why you must live next door to Mrs. James Meyers, how is she?" The bad check passer in order to complete the transaction, invariably will say: "Oh, yes, I know Mrs. Meyers. She is fine."

Or ask about fictitious construction. "You live on Oak Street? Last week the city had the street torn up so that we couldn't drive on it. Have they fixed it yet?" The check passer will either say, "yes, its fixed" or "no, its still torn up" and thus reveal himself.

Another angle is to ask about a fictitious landmark. Say "420 Oak Street, why you live close to the—School, don't you?" (name some school on the other side of town from the given street). The bad check passer will always say, "Yes."

Familiarize authorizers with city locations, districts and telephone exchanges serving general localities.

The above suggestions are offered to help you and protect you. If you will co-operate by carrying them out you will aid your police department greatly in its work in protecting you from loss on "Bogus" checks.

### REMEMBER—BE ESPECIALLY CAUTIOUS AT THESE TIMES:

1. When a sizeable amount of cash is requested in addition to the amount of the purchase.



2. When a check is presented by a JUVENILE (many children are involved in passing fraudulent checks).
3. When a check is presented by an INTOXICATED person.
4. When a check is presented on a Bank Holiday. Checks are not Legal Tender: The item is worth only what you know about the person presenting same. Your merchandise and money are the "stakes" in the gamble.
5. When a check is rubber stamped, drawn on out of city or distant bank, or otherwise does not look right
6. When the customer tries to give you the RUSH act or presents a check without proper identification at the busy time of day.

### **CONCLUSION: DO NOT LET THE PATIENT DOMINATE THE INTERVIEW**

A check passer is a coward at heart and his nerve will fail him if he knows an investigation is being made. A Bonafide person, on the other hand, will not resent a diplomatically handled investigation if questions are asked. It is only the "Fraud" who resents this and "blusters" as he knows that he cannot stand investigation. When in doubt don't take unnecessary chances just to make a sale. Refuse the Check and Save you Money and Merchandise.

Observe the identifiable characteristics of any stranger whose check or manner of presentation is obviously suspect. Be able to describe him by specific details.

Do not hold a worthless check longer than two weeks. Miracles cannot be performed by police where you have failed. Once prosecution is instituted — see it through — check artists thrive on "soft-hearted" complainants.

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### **DENTISTRY — GRATIS?**

Recent experience in England shows that the cost of dental service in a compulsory health insurance program is not small and that it has a tendency to skyrocket beyond original estimates. For England, Scotland and Wales, the British government initially estimated the cost of the dental program at \$32,000,000 for the first year. Later estimates predicted a total cost of \$83,000,000 for the first year.

What the ultimate cost to the taxpayers in this country would be for dental, medical, nursing, hospital and other benefits no one dares to predict, not even the sponsors of the program. Americans traditionally have refused to buy a pig in a poke. They want to know in advance what they are buying and what it is going to cost. Until these facts are made plain, everyone has the right to be skeptical of federal compulsory insurance system.

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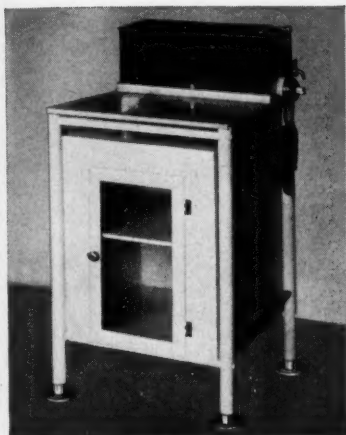
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7. No pilot light.

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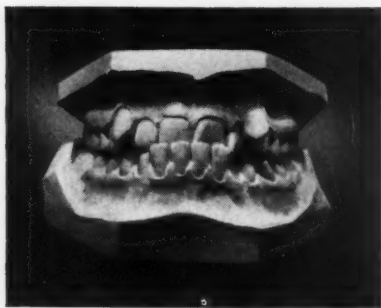
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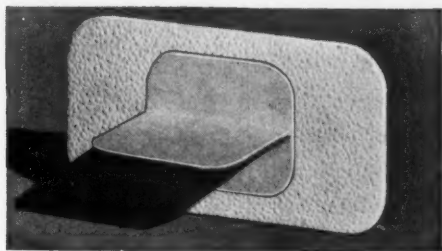
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